

CONTENT WARNINGS

Title: _____

Author: _____

The work contained here has descriptions of the following:

- ☐ Abortion/miscarriage
- ☐ Alcohol abuse
- ☐ Animal cruelty or death
- ☐ Blood/gore
- ☐ Bullying
- ☐ Child abuse
- ☐ Coarse language
- ☐ Death/dying
- ☐ Domestic/spousal abuse
- ☐ Mental illness
- ☐ Nudity
- ☐ Pedophilia
- ☐ Racism/racial violence
- ☐ Self-harm/suicide
- ☐ Sexism
- ☐ Sexual assault/rape
- ☐ Sexual activities
- ☐ Smoking
- ☐ Substance abuse
- ☐ Violence
- ☐ Other: _____

NOVELTY MUSTACHE

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

We open on GEORGE (20). He is a slightly overweight man with an orangish-brown goatee. He wears a SPIDER MAN tee-shirt and khaki shorts. His hair is short and not combed.

He is seen carrying a bag of fast food to an apartment door. He knocks on the door. It opens and he hands the food to the HUNGRY PERSON (20s) on the other side.

GEORGE

Enjoy!

HUNGRY PERSON

Thank you.

The hungry person closes the door. George waits for a second, turns and walks out.

GEORGE

(To himself)

The delivery fee is not a tip...

EXT. PARK - DAY

We see a beautiful park in the background. Our view is centered on a bench. George walks into the frame and sits on the bench, with his own bag of fast food. His MOM (40s) calls him.

GEORGE

Hey, do you need something?

MOM (O.S.)

Rude. Can't I just call to talk to my son? Am I interrupting your poor excuse for a job?

GEORGE

No. No... I'm... just eating lunch.

MOM (O.S.)

Hopefully some real food rather than that chemical mish-mash you deliver?

GEORGE

Uh... yeah.

(beat)

Oh.

(MORE)

GEORGE (CONT'D)
I have another order to deliver.
I'll have to talk to you later.
Bye.

MOM (O.S.)
Wait! I-

George hangs up. There is no notification of a new order.

George continues and finishes eating his lunch. He gets up from the bench, and throws away his trash in a nearby bin. He spots a WISHING WELL next to the bin. He shrugs to himself.

GEORGE
Couldn't hurt.
(beat)
Alright. I wish that people would
respect me.

George fetches a penny from his wallet, and flips it into the WISHING WELL. He waits for a moment, and gets a notification of a new order on his phone.

As he is about to leave the well, he spots a NOVELTY MUSTACHE on the ground next to it. He picks up the mustache, and sees the back still has the peel-away plastic on it.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Even if they don't tip, this will
at least make customers smile.

I/E. CUSTOMER'S HOUSE - DAY

George drives up to the house. We see him text that he is outside to THE CUSTOMER (30s).

He steps out of the car with the food, putting on the mustache. The customer exits their home and approaches the car.

CUSTOMER
Munch Runner?

GEORGE
Yep. Here is your food. Smells
great. I want to just take it and
eat it myself.

CUSTOMER
Well, here you go then.

The customer tries to hand the bag back over to George.

GEORGE
Are you serious? I was kidding.

CUSTOMER
I insist. You might have thought
you were kidding, but you weren't.

GEORGE
Well... thank you!

George takes the bag, and drives away. We see him in his car, visibly confused about the situation. He takes off the mustache and ponders it.

MONTAGE - VARIOUS

George delivers food to each of the locations, each time wearing the mustache. Throughout the montage, a small portion of an upbeat song such as "I Want To Break Free" by Queen plays. The montage scenes are preferably shown at the same time on a split screen.

In each scene of the montage, George delivers food to a different character, and each time he mouths something about wanting the food, and the character gives the food to George.

- A) EXT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY - An OLD MAN (60s)
- B) EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY - An OFFICE GIRL (30s)
- C) EXT. APARTMENT BLOCK - DAY - A BLIND MAN (40s)
- D) EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY - A POLICE OFFICER (40s)

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. CUSTOMER'S HOUSE - DAY

We see George drive up to the home of the customer, the first person he took food from today. He puts on the mustache.

GEORGE
Hello. Here is your food.

CUSTOMER
Thank you so much. I gave you that
food earlier, and I don't know why.
I was still hungry so I reordered,
you know?

GEORGE

Well, it does still smell great. I think you should give it to me again.

CUSTOMER

Sure. Here you go.

GEORGE

Thank you very much.

George drives away.

INT. HANNAFORD - DAY

We see George shopping in a Hannaford grocery store, wearing the mustache. His cart is filled to the brim with lots of junk food, and top-shelf booze.

While shopping, a SHOPPER (20s) accidentally bumps into him. The shopper is wearing HEADPHONES and looks like he is listening to music.

GEORGE

Hey! Watch where you are going.

SHOPPER

Oh! Sorry, bro.

George continues shopping. In the background, we see the shopper trip.

He arrives at the register. The CASHIER (17) stands behind the register and begins to scan the items as they are placed on the conveyer belt.

CASHIER

Got a party planned tonight?

GEORGE

Party of one. I got a big bonus from work today.

CASHIER

Well, good for you. What field do you work in?

GEORGE

That's classified.

CASHIER

You're right, that is classified.
(beat)

(MORE)

CASHIER (CONT'D)

Alright, now I am just going to need an ID for this liquor.

GEORGE

Oh, I don't need to show you an ID. I look above 30.

CASHIER

You are right, you do look above 30.

(beat)

Alright, that will be seven nineteen sixty eight.

GEORGE

Oh, I don't need to pay for any of this. You should just act like I paid cash and hand me the receipt.

CASHIER

Sure thing.

The cashier prints the receipt and hands it to George. George walks out of the frame.

INT. GEORGE'S CAR - DAY

We see George call his mom as he is driving. The groceries are visible in the back seat. George is wearing the mustache.

MOM (O.S.)

Hello?

GEORGE

Hey, Mom. One thing, real quick. I think you should respect me for who I am. I know I don't make as much money as Andy, and I don't have any degrees like Andy. I know Andy gets you better mother's day gifts than me.

(rising intensity)

But I am sick! And tired! Of you and Dad always seeing me as the failure of the family. I am doing just fine on my own, and I don't need you guys rubbing my shortcomings in my face! So stop treating me like something you scrapped off your shoe, and start treating me like a person, like I'm your God damn son!

We see George crying.

MOM (O.S.)
Okay. I will start treating you
like a son.

GEORGE
Say I love you.

MOM (O.S.)
You love me.

GEORGE
No! Tell me that you love me.

MOM (O.S.)
I love you.

George hangs up, still crying. He throws his phone out the car window, and keeps driving.

INT. GEORGE'S HOUSE - DUSK

We see George's home. It is messy, with various fast food bags strewn about. The trash can is overflowing.

We see George sitting on a sofa watching the sports channel.

He is drinking the booze he bought straight from the bottle, and is eating from the various fast food bags he took today.

GEORGE
I'm so glad I found you. Thanks to
you, I've become a god. People are
finally giving me the respect I
deserve.

We see George draw a roadmap with a pen and a loose sheet of printer paper. He draws a step-by-step roadmap.

Step 1 shows a stick figure with a mustache holding up a megaphone.

Step 2 shows an army of stick people carrying the mustache person on a throne to a castle.

Step 3 shows the mustache person wearing a crown and standing over a crudely drawn Earth.

A commercial break appears on the TV and George flips around channels for something to watch for a few minutes. He stumbles across the local news.

ON SCREEN

An ANCHORWOMAN (40s) is sitting behind a desk. She puts on a novelty mustache. There is an empty chair next to her.

ANCHORWOMAN

For our next story, we have received reports of a person people are calling Mustache Man who has been causing people to act strangely. The man was wearing a fake mustache just like this one I am wearing right now.

The cashier walks into frame and sits next to the anchorwoman.

ANCHORWOMAN (CONT'D)

Here with us we have Austin Packer, who was fired from a local Hannaford just this afternoon after meeting this Mustache Man. Austin, would you like to tell us what happened?

AUSTIN (CASHIER)

Sure thing. I was just doing my normal shift, ringing people up, and this guy shows up to my register. His cart is chalk full of chips and pretzels, and so much alcohol. He was wearing that joke mustache, and I just tried to ignore it. More often than not, commenting on someone's attire is a recipe for disaster.

BACK TO SCENE

We see GEORGE laughing at the TV, shoveling a fistful of french fries into his mouth.

ON SCREEN

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

And so this guy looks not much older than me, so when I scanned the alcohol I asked him for his ID. But he told me that he looks above 30. And it was so weird. I suddenly believed it. But that wasn't even the weirdest part.

(MORE)

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

When I told him his total, he said he didn't have to pay for it, and I don't know why, but I agreed. I punched in that he paid in exact change, and handed him the receipt. I don't know what that guy did to me, but it lost me my job, and Hannaford wants me to foot the seven hundred dollar bill.

ANCHORWOMAN

Thank you Austin. Hannaford has not released an official statement at this time. Additionally, we are receiving reports that this Mustache Man delivers food for the delivery app Munch Runner, as many unhappy customers reported this afternoon feeling an urge to give their food to the Mustache Man. Munch Runner has stated they are ending their business relationship with the Mustache Man.

BACK TO SCENE

GEORGE

(To the mustache)

So they finally caught on. Doesn't matter. So long as I have you, I am untouchable. I am a god.

We hear a knock at the door. George dons the mustache and answers. There are two police officers, one of them being the one he delivered food to earlier.

POLICE OFFICER

Sir, you are under arrest. I'm gonna need you to put your hands behind your back.

GEORGE

Tell me what I'm being charged with.

POLICE OFFICER

Felony larceny.

GEORGE

You have no reason to arrest me.

(To OFFICER 2)

You, arrest your partner.

OFFICER 2 (30s) attempts to arrest POLICE OFFICER.

POLICE OFFICER
What are you doing? This is the guy
we are after.

OFFICER 2
No, you are the criminal, and you
will be brought to justice.

POLICE OFFICER wrestles OFFICER 2 off of him, and runs to the
squad car, driving away.

GEORGE
You don't need to chase him. But
for now, you will stay here and
stop people from arresting me.

OFFICER 2
Got it.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

We see the police officer enter a room. We see a DETECTIVE
(50s) reviewing the security footage from the Hannaford while
George was there.

DETECTIVE
Tell me, how do you think this
Mustache Man's power works?

POLICE OFFICER
Well, from the data we have, I'd
say he needs to be wearing the
mustache, and then you have to obey
his commands.

DETECTIVE
Well done. Now. How do we stop him
from controlling us while we get
close enough to snatch the 'stache?
Take a look at this.

The DETECTIVE turns a laptop to show security footage of the
SHOPPER bumping into GEORGE and then tripping.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)
Through reading this Mustache Man's
lips, he appears to have said for
this man to watch his step, but he
doesn't obey. Why? I suspect the
headphones.

POLICE OFFICER
That's brilliant!

CUT TO:

EXT. GEORGE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

We see 2 squad cars arrive at George's house. Multiple officers get out, all wearing headphones.

POLICE OFFICER
(Through megaphone)
Come out with your hands up.

George exits out the front door with his hands up.

GEORGE
I command you all to leave me
alone!

The police officer, along with a few others run up to George and arrest him as George struggles.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Wait! But you have to obey me! This
isn't fair!

The police officer pulls the mustache off of George and puts it into an evidence bag.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

We see the police officer lock the bag containing the mustache in a glass-doored evidence locker. We get a closeup on the bag, and the mustache disappears.

CUT TO:

EXT. ASIA PARK - DAY

We see a park somewhere in Asia. We focus on a BUSINESSMAN (20s) sitting on a bench. The novelty mustache appears next to him, with the peel-away plastic intact. He picks it up, chuckles, and puts it on.

FADE OUT.